

about the fact that I think once a century you get an issue that overwhelms all other issues. In this country in the 18th Century I think it was independence. In this country in the 19th Century I think it was freedom from slavery. I think this century, the 20th Century, in this country it is freedom and independence from nuclear arms. It seems to me that before we can move on and discuss education, before we can discuss social services, before we can discuss the many issues before this body, in an attempt to make this the greatest state possible, we have to recognize it would all be for naught if there was ever a nuclear exchange and our nation was involved and you would see our institutions, our work, all eliminated through that exchange, and I think clearly Nebraska is marked big X on the map, and so I think it is important for the Nebraska Legislature among all the different things that we do to recognize the overarching concern about the nuclear arms buildup. Now we are not alone in that concern. Right now the Congress is faced with this resolution. In the handout I just passed around, 17 legislatures have taken action on this but since that handout another five have taken action so there are now 22 legislatures that have acted on this question and felt that it was important for them to take a position in support of the freeze. Ten states have had a referendum, nine of those have had it adopted, and we have seen numerous city councils, counties, other local subdivisions, voting on this question, statewide organizations in Nebraska. There is a long list in support of the freeze and there are many individuals and defense experts that support the freeze. That is because it is a key issue of our times. The fact that the SAC Air Force Base is here is another key concern, and the handout from the Physicians for Social Responsibility describes in detail what would happen if the SAC Air Force Base ever was attacked in a nuclear exchange. It would be devastating. I think also you can see the concern about this issue from the advertisement that came out in the papers Monday from the nuclear freeze and the poll that was done by KLIN in Lincoln and by the Omaha World Herald across the state that shows Nebraskans support a nuclear freeze. All this leads to one conclusion, the people of the State of Nebraska and the people of this country are concerned about the issue and by and large a majority support the freeze as an option that we should pursue. Now let's talk about that because there really are two options that we are faced with right now, that is the freeze option and the buildup option. The buildup is what President Reagan has been talking about. He says we are behind and the way to get this thing taken care of is peace through strength, build up our arms, put in more money and that will take care of our defense needs